



# MOBILIZATION - 1861

North Carolina Forms and  
Deploys Its First Regiment  
into Combat

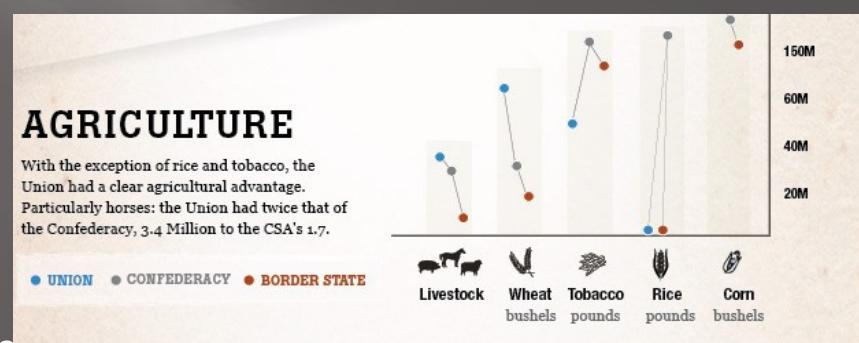
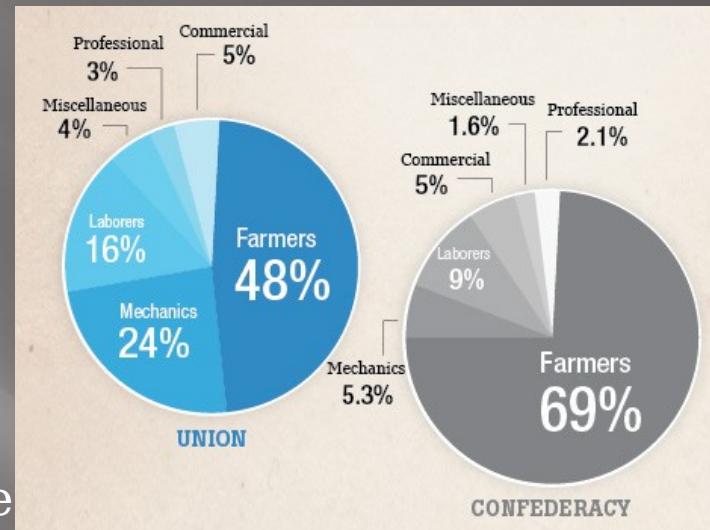


Presentation by  
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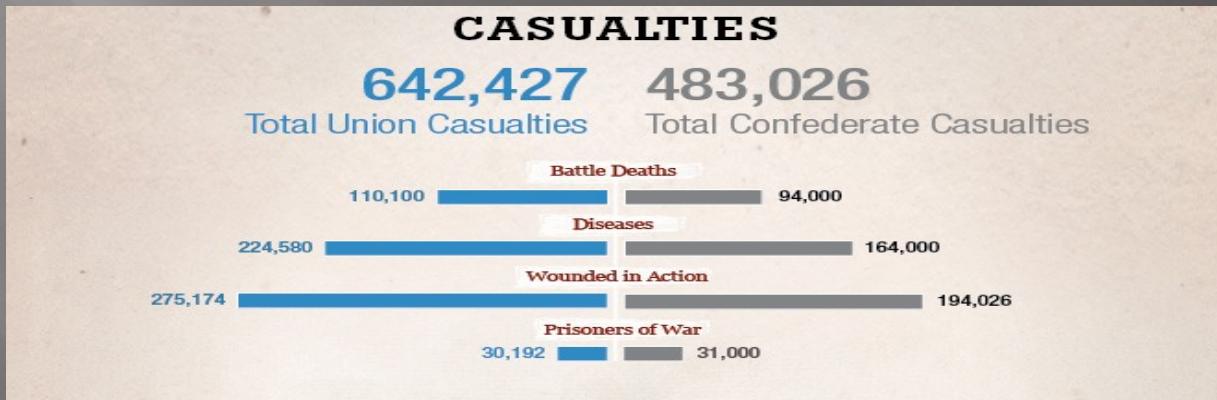
# Civilian Occupations

- North-Union
  - Farmers, 48 percent
  - Mechanics, 24 percent
  - Laborers, 16 percent
  - Commercial, 5 percent
  - Miscellaneous, 4 percent
  - Professional occupations, 3 percent
- South-Confederate
  - Farmers, 69 percent
  - Laborers, 9 percent
  - Mechanics, 5.3 percent
  - Commercial, 5 percent
  - Professional occupations, 2.1 percent
  - Miscellaneous, 1.6 percent



# Bloodiest Battles

- The bloodiest battles of the Civil War were:
  - • Gettysburg: 51,116 casualties
  - • Seven Days: 36,463 casualties
  - • Chickamauga: 34,624 casualties
  - • Chancellorsville: 29,609 casualties
  - • Antietam: 22,726 casualties
- Note: Antietam had the greatest number of casualties of any single-day battle.



# What Do You Need To Field An Army?

- Troops
- Arms
- Money
- Legal Authority



# North Carolina's Resources Prior to 1859

- No Regiments
- Volunteer System
- Militia
  - Unorganized
  - Unarmed
  - Untrained

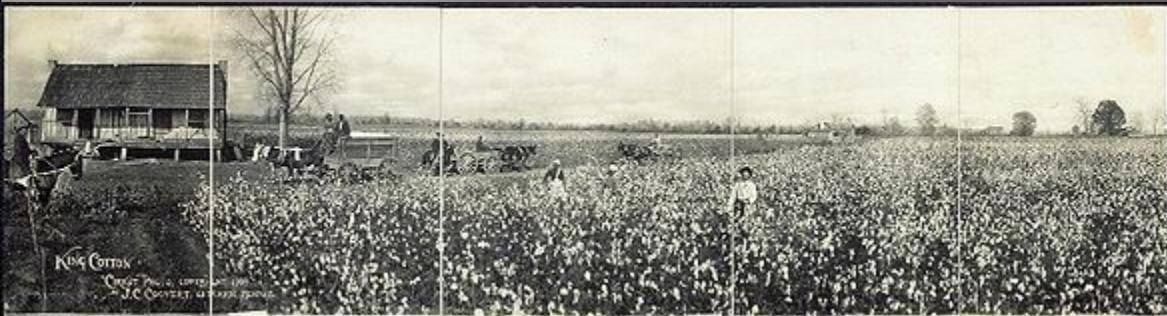


Almost No Military Preparedness in State

# North Carolina Politics Prior to 1859

- North= Industrial
- South= Agricultural/Cotton King
  - economy depended on slave labor

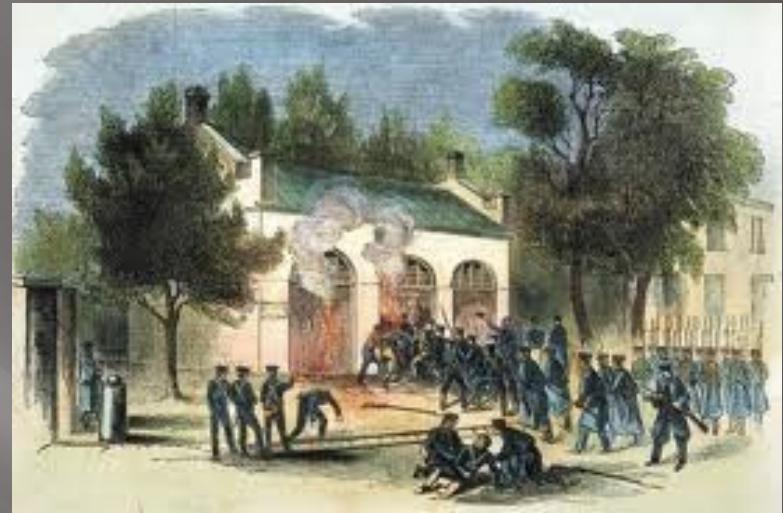
Should the States have the right to control themselves...or should the



Little Secessionist Sympathy in NC

# John Brown's Raid on Harper's Ferry

- What was The Raid about?
  - White Abolitionist+20
  - Slave Revolt in 1859
  - Try to seize U.S. Arsenal in HF, VA
  - Harriet Tubman-illness
  - Frederick Douglas-declined
- Citizens Worry About Defending State
- New Militia Companies Form
- Companies Begin Tactical Training
- D H Hill Creates NC Military Institute in Charlotte



**The first civilian killed by the abolitionist John Brown and his cohorts at Harper's Ferry was a free black man.**



# 1860 Election

- Southern Democrats Unit Against Republican Party
- Republicans Win White House and Congress (Who was this?)
- Southern States Begin Seceding from Union
- NC Elects Pro-Secessionist Governor, John Ellis



# North Carolina Marches to War

14 Apr Fort Sumter  
Surrenders

19 Apr AG Orders D H Hill  
to Form a Regiment to  
Fight in Virginia



# North Carolina Marches to War

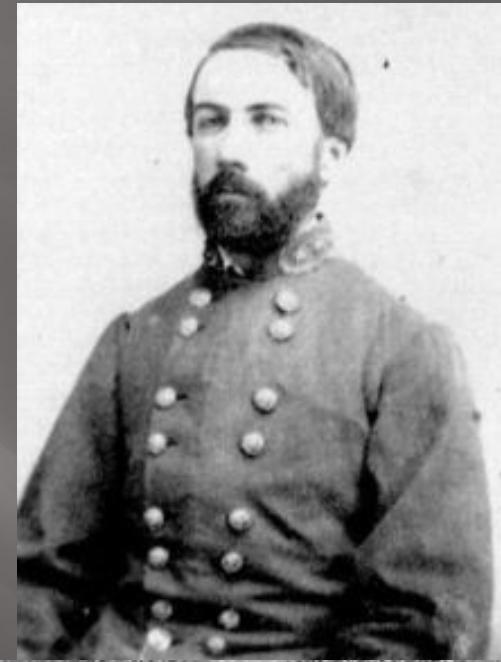
24 Apr Gov. Ellis Promises to Send 10K Volunteers to Richmond “in a few days”

25 Apr D H Hill Establishes a Camp of Instruction in Raleigh

Volunteers pour into Capital

Troops quartered at State Fair Grounds

26 Apr COL Hill Begins Military Preparations  
Drilling Volunteers Outstrip Political Action



# North Carolina Prepares for War

1 May Assembly Calls for Convention  
Vote

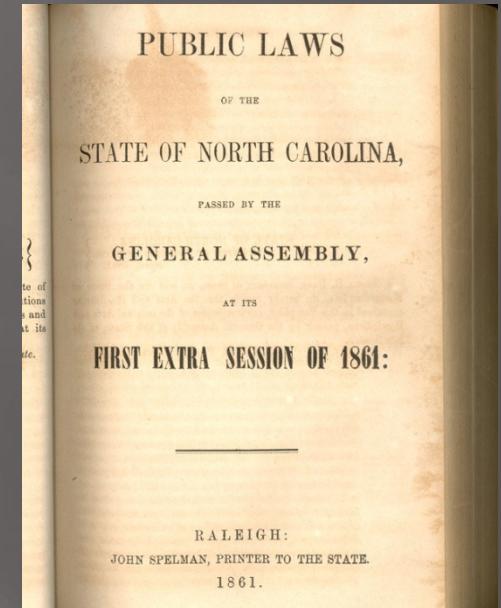
8 May Assembly Passes Act to Raise 10K  
State Troops under 3 Year Enlistments

10 May Assembly Authorizes 20K  
Volunteers with 1 Year Enlistments

10 May Assembly Passes Resolution to  
Muster the 1<sup>st</sup> Regiment of Volunteers

11 May Assembly Appropriates \$5M for  
Public Defense

13 May Delegates to Convention Elected



# 1<sup>st</sup> NC Volunteers

15 May AG Musters 1<sup>st</sup> Regiment of Volunteers  
for Six Months Confederate Service  
AKA...The Bethel Regiment

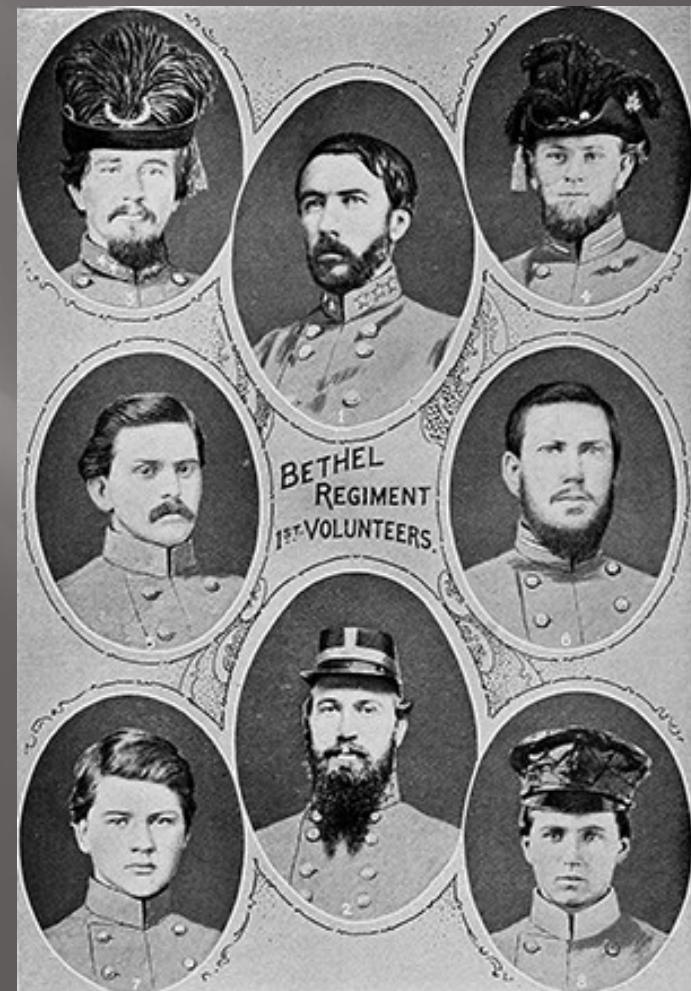
COL D H Hill      LTC Charles C Lee      MAJ James Lane

Co	Unit	County
A	Edgecombe Guards	Edgecombe
B	Hornets Nest Rifles	Mecklenburg
C	Charlotte Greys	Mecklenburg
D	Orange Light Infantry	Orange
E	Buncombe Riflemen	Buncombe
F	La Fayette Light Infantry	Cumberland
G	Burke Rifles	Burke
H	Fayetteville Independent Light Infantry	Cumberland
I	Enfield Blues	Halifax
K	Southern Stars	Lincoln

# The Bloody Bethel Regiment

**Commander**- COL D.H.Hill  
(top left)

“The lion-hearted and iron-handed hero whose blood-stained legion formed the Ironsides of that immortal band...”



# 1<sup>st</sup> NC Volunteers Deploy

18 May Advance Party Departs for Richmond

20 May State Secedes

21 May Regiment (-) Deployed to Richmond

24 May Regiment Advances to Defend Yorktown

6 Jun Regiment Advances to Big Bethel



# 10 Jun Battle of Big Bethel

1<sup>st</sup> NC Vol. Reinforced by VA Artillery and Infantry Turns Back 3500 Union Troops at Big Bethel

56 Days after Lincoln's Call for Troops

46 Days after Camp of Instruction Established  
26 Days after Regiment Mustered

21 Days after State Seceded

20 Days after deploying to Virginia



# The first of our Sons to lay down his life...

- Henry Lawson Wyatt
  - 1st Confederate Soldier from NC to shed his blood
  - The story...
    - Co A Edgecombe Guards
    - The mission...Burn a house occupied enemy sharpshooters
    - Wyatt and his two comrades leapt into action
    - A volley of rounds fired at the men by the enemy and Wyatt fell
    - A small clot of blood on his forehead marked the fatal wound

“Thus was slain our brave boy Soldier-a martyr in a holy cause-a victim in an unrighteous war against our liberties-a glorious and heroic death”

# Lessons From North Carolina's Mobilization

- Pre-War Militia Companies Proved Vital
- Even Minor Pre-War Preparations Paid Big Dividends during Mobilization
- Gov. Ellis and AG Hoke Pushed Military Preparations w/o Legal Authorization and Funding
- Despite Lack of Training, Time and Experience Bethel Regiment Performed in Combat

